

Larus cachinnans. Yellow-legged Herring-Gull.

Common in March, April, and November at Port Said and Shallufa (on the Canal), and probably at other times; at Mohammedia in September and a large flock always at El Arish in January, where they often flew over the town as if accustomed to feed there. They seemed to be tame, and on occasions settled among our bivouacs.

Larus fuscus. Lesser Black-backed Gull.

During April there was a large flock at Suez, and I noticed it increased greatly about April 29, when they were probably passing. I saw this bird in February, March, April, and May along the Canal.

Puffinus yelkouanus. Levantine Shearwater.

Odd birds on Sept. 1 and 5 off Mohammedia. Mr. H. H. Storey picked up one of this species there.

XXIX.—*Further Notes on the Birds of the Province of Fohkien in South-east China.* By J. D. D. LA TOUCHE, M.B.O.U.

WITH the exception of the two Gulls, which were obtained several years ago, the birds mentioned in the following notes have been received at various times from Foochow during the past four years.

The following are to be added to the birds formerly recorded from the Province of Fohkien :—

Emberiza melanocephala.
 — *rustica.*
Chelidon dasyopus.
Hirundo erythrogaster.
Merops sumatranus.
Sphenocercus sieboldi.
Sterna media.
Larus glaucescens.
 — *affinis.*

Puffinus griseus pescadorei.
Plegadis falcinellus.
Demiegretta sacra.
Butorides amurensis.
Sarcidiornis melanonota.
Fuligula rufina.
 — *baeri.*
Oidemia americana.

Of the above, the following are additions to the avifauna of China :—

Emberiza melanocephala.		Fuligula rufina.
Sphenocercus sieboldi.		Larus glaucescens.
Sarcidiornis melanonota.		— affinis.

The following birds, previously doubtfully recorded, can now be definitely added to the list of Chinese birds :—

Plegadis falcinellus.		Oidemia americana.
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Paradoxornis guttaticollis A. David.

David & Oustalet, Ois. Chine, p. 203, pl. 64 ; Rickett & La Touche, Ibis, 1897, p. 605.

An egg from central Fohkien, in the collection of the British Museum, is a rather pointed oval, smooth, slightly glossy, pure white, with a few minute rufous dots and short irregular purplish-grey lines, chiefly at the large end. It measures 22.5 × 17 mm.

Stoparola melanops (Vig.).

D. & O. p. 116 ; Rickett, Ibis, 1894, p. 221.

A male, dated September 1913. This is the first example recorded from Fohkien since the one mentioned by Mr. Rickett as shot at Foochow in January.

Junco siemsseni Martens.

La Touche, Ibis, 1913, p. 277, pl. vi.

A second female example from Kuatun in north-west Fohkien, dated February 1914. It is quite similar to the one figured in 'The Ibis.'

Emberiza melanocephala Scop.

A Bunting, sexed female by the collector and dated September 1913, appears to be a female Black-headed Bunting. I am informed that it was shot at Foochow from a party of *Emberiza aureola*.

Description.—Head and upper parts, surface of wings, and tail pale sandy brown, finely streaked with brown except on the sides of the head and neck. Inner surface of wings and tail brown. Throat whitish ; breast and

flanks like the back, but much paler and very finely streaked. From the breast to the under tail-coverts yellowish white, here and there more yellow. Under tail-coverts rather pale yellow. Wing 3·4 inches, tail 2·68, culmen 0·5, tarsus 0·9.

Emberiza spodocephala Pall.

D. & O. p. 324; La Touche, Ibis, 1892, p. 427.

An immature male, dated 1913, has the upper tail-coverts mostly white; the bases of the feathers of the head, neck, lower back, rump, and underparts are pure silvery white; the fringes of the tertiaries are mostly white.

Emberiza rustica Pall.

D. & O. p. 324.

Four males and a female, dated 28 and 29 October, 1913, 20 November, 1913, and 5 January, 1914.

Hirundo erythrogastra Bodd.

A male from Foochow, dated Mareh 1913.

Chelidon dasypus Bp.

A male dated February 1913, and a male and a female labelled Central Fohkien, April 1914.

Motacilla leucopsis Gould.

Motacilla alboides D. & O. p. 298; La Touche, Ibis, 1892, p. 419.

An albino, labelled:—"Foochow, 14 November, 1913. Female." Head and body pure white, except two or three pale brown feathers on crown. Wing-quills (except tertiaries, which are white) and primary-coverts pale brown. Tail white, except three rectrices which are blackish.

Another example, not sexed, dated 16 December, 1913 has the upper-parts mixed white and grey.

Merops sumatranus Raffles.

Merops bicolor D. & O. p. 73.

One male and three females from central Fohkien, dated

May 1913, and two males and two females from Wu Yi Shan in north-west Fohkien, of the same date. This Bee-cater has been previously recorded from the Poyang Lake in the Kiangsi Province.

Acanthyllis caudacuta (Lath.).

Chaetura caudacuta D. & O. p. 70.

A pair from central Fohkien, dated May 1914. I have seen four others from the same locality.

Harpactes yamakanensis Rickett.

Harpactes yamakanensis Rickett, Bull. B. O. C. viii. 1899, p. xlviii; Ibis, 1899, p. 444.

A male, dated April 1913, has the right flank bright yellow.

Syrnium indranee (Sykes).

Syrnium indrani Rickett, Ibis, 1900, p. 57.

A female example from central Fohkien, dated February 1901.

Bubo ignavus (Forst.).

Bubo maximus D. & O. p. 39; La Touche, Ibis, 1892, p. 481.

Two eggs, obtained near Foochow together with the male bird on the 14th of January, 1908, measure 61×48 and 61.5×49 mm. These are now in the collection of the British Museum.

Scops stictonotus Sharpe.

La Touche, Ibis, 1900, p. 46.

Two eggs from north-west Fohkien, now in the British Museum, are a round oval, rather smooth in texture. They measure 31×26 and 32×26 mm.

Pernis elliotti Jerdon.

La Touche, Ibis, 1913, p. 279.

I have a second example from Changlo Hsien in north Fohkien, dated 10 November, 1914. The underparts are dirty white, with a very few fine shaft-stripes; there is no necklace.

***Sphenocercus sieboldi* Temm.**

Sphenocercus sororius La Touche, Ibis, 1913, p. 280.

The specimen has been identified as being of this species by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant.

***Scolopax rusticola* L.**

D. & O. p. 475 ; La Touche, Ibis, 1892, p. 497.

An example of the Woodcock, shot at Foochow on the 7th of December, 1916, has the primaries, the primary-coverts, the winglet, the corresponding parts of the under wing-coverts, the first secondary of one wing, and the first two of the other wing pure white. The underparts are rather pale, but the bird is otherwise normal. The contrast between the Woodcock plumage and the white flight-feathers is most striking.

***Sterna media* Horsf.**

Two female examples of the Allied Tern were shot at Foochow in April 1916. The wings measure 12·3 inches and 12·4 inches. This Tern appears to have been observed on the coast of Kwangtung (Vaughan & Jones, Ibis, 1913, p. 376).

***Sterna longipennis* Nordm.**

D. & O. p. 526.

A female example from Foochow, dated May 1913. Wing 11·3 inches.

***Sterna tibetana* Saunders.**

Sterna fluviatilis D. & O. pp. 525-6 [part?].

A male and a female from Foochow, dated April 1916. Both these birds and the above are in breeding-dress.

***Anous stolidus* (L.).**

Rickett, Ibis, 1900, p. 60 ; D. & O. p. 529.

A male from Foochow, dated 21 September, 1912.

***Pelecanus crispus* Bruch.**

A fine adult female of the Dalmatian Pelican was shot near Foochow in April 1913. The pouch was bright red and had a black mark at the base of the lower mandible. Wing 27 inches, culmen 14·25.

***Puffinus griseus pescadorei*.**

Neonectris griseus pescadorei Mathews & Iredale, Ibis, 1915, p. 602.

A skin of a Shearwater, which appears to be of this species, was sent to me from Foochow. It is labelled "Foochow, May 1916." Wing 11.25 inches, culmen 1.52.

***Plegadis falcinellus* (L.).**

Ibis falcinellus D. & O. p. 455.

Three adult examples of the Glossy Ibis were shot at Foochow on the 19th of April, 1913. This bird was included among the birds of China by Swinhoe and David & Oustalet on the authority of sportsmen, who had told Swinhoe that they had seen the bird in Chekiang.

***Demiegretta sacra* (Gm.).**

Vaughan & Jones, Ibis, 1913, p. 369.

I have an example, dated 14 February, 1914, sent to me from Foochow, which is stated to have been shot at Hing Hua on the coast of Fohkien. It is slate-coloured, with a white line down the centre of the throat. Wing 10.5 inches.

***Butorides amurensis* Schrenck.**

Butorides macrorhynchus D. & O. p. 443.

I have an immature example of the Amoor Green Heron, shot at Foochow in September 1914.

***Nyctiardea magna* Ogilvie-Grant.**

La Touche, Ibis, 1913, p. 282.

I have four more examples of this fine Heron, all obtained in May 1914 and on the 7th and 20th of March, 1915, in central Fohkien, where the bird is said to breed. Two are adult males, one is an adult female, and the fourth (dated 7 March) is a female in immature plumage. This bird differs as follows from the adult:—There is no black or orange on the head and neck, the black being replaced by deep brown, each feather having a pale buff or whitish elongated spot near the tip. The scapulars, interscapular

region, wing-coverts, winglet, and tertiaries are tipped with large whitish spots. The crest is short.

Anser segetum (Gmel.).

A Bean-Goose, sent to me from Foochow, labelled "♀, Changlo Hsien, North Fohkien, November 1916," is one of five shot out of a flock of a hundred or so. This bird had the sides of the upper mandible yellow or orange from the nail to about two-tenths of an inch from the base of the bill. The five geese shot were reported to be all similar in this respect. Culmen 64 mm., teeth 20. Several Bean-Geese, shot at Chinwangtao in March 1913 and now in the Natural History Museum in London, had the bill coloured much the same.

Sarcidiornis melanonota (Penn.).

I have two handsome males of the Comb-Duck, shot at Foochow, one on the 18th of April, 1914, and the other in June of the same year. I was informed at the time that a party of these duck had appeared that year at Foochow. The date of the last-mentioned bird would seem to indicate that they were breeding.

Fuligula rufina (Pall.).

I have a female, labelled "Foochow, December 1915." Culmen 1.93 inches, wing 10.23.

Fuligula baeri Radde.

D. & O. p. 509, pl. 124.

I have an immature male from Foochow, dated 20 December, 1913, and have lately received a duck from the same locality, labelled "♀, 5 Nov., 1916," which appears to be of the same species.

Oidemia americana Swainson.

I have a female from the Lienchiang River, near Foochow, dated 5 December, 1914. Although Swinhoe included this duck in his Revised List (P. Z. S. 1871, p. 419), David & Oustalet omitted it from their work on Chinese birds, and state that Swinhoe had subsequently identified Captain Blakiston's birds as being the Velvet Scoter.

Mergus squamatus Gould.

Ibis, 1913, p. 283.

I have two females, obtained in winter in central Fohkien.

Podiceps holboelli Reinhardt.

Rickett, Ibis, 1894, p. 226.

I have lately received two skins from Foochow, one of them shot in central Fohkien and dated December 1915; wing 7.6 inches, culmen 2. The other, merely labelled "Fohkien," is dated 20 January, 1917; wing 7.85 inches, culmen 2.

Larus glaucescens Nann.

An immature example of this Gull, obtained at Foochow, was identified by the late Mr. Howard Saunders.

Larus affinis Reinh.

An adult example, obtained on the coast between Chekiang and Foochow, was identified as being of this species by the late Mr. Howard Saunders. Another, an immature skin, was doubtfully stated by him to be of the same species.

XXX.—*The Birds of Dirk Hartog Island and Peron Peninsula, Shark Bay, Western Australia, 1916-17.* By THOMAS CARTER, M.B.O.U.; with *Nomenclature and Remarks* by GREGORY M. MATHEWS, M.B.O.U.

(Plates IX.-XI.)

DIRK HARTOG Island forms the main western boundary of Shark Bay on the extreme west coast of Australia, and is the most westerly land of the island continent, the meridian of 113° E. running almost through Cape Inscription at the north-west corner of the island. The most westerly point of the mainland is Steep Point, immediately below the south end of Dirk Hartog Island, and separated from it by the South Passage, which, at its narrowest part, is barely a mile in